



A Small Business Set-Aside

Electric Vehicle Product Improvement Program

The Department of Energy (DOE), National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) in Golden, Colorado, has awarded contracts to four small business firms to improve four existing electric vehicles. The firms will use off-the-shelf technology and components to produce improved vehicles. The contracts are to deliver two identical improved models within 8 months of the award date. The contracts, which resulted from a competitive bidding process, are 12 months in duration and require complete reports and for DOE to accept the vehicles.

The improved vehicles are to have greater range than present state of the art and are to be able to carry at least two persons plus cargo. The performance goals includes a range of 100 miles in stop-and-go traffic, passing speeds of 40 miles per hour, ability to climb grades of 10 percent and acceleration to 30 miles per hour in less than 10 seconds or less. Additional criteria required to qualify for the program are operating and non-operating maintainability, and battery life.